IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE he Application of: Group Art Unit: 1615 ABRAMS, Louis Brown Examiner: Serial No.: 10/613,982 FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT Filed: July 3,2003 CERTIFICATE OF MAILING Atty. File No.: 4811-17 I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO THE "FLOCKED ARTICLES AND For: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA METHODS OF MAKING SAME" 22313-1450,ON APRIL 13, 2004. RERIDAN ROSS P.C. Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Dear Sir: The references cited on attached Form PTO-1449 are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the cited references are enclosed herewith. Copies of the cited references are not enclosed, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(d), because the references were submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in prior application Serial No. __ filed _____, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. To the best of applicants' belief, the pertinence of the foreign-language references are believed to be summarized in the attached English abstracts and in the figures, although applicants do not

necessarily vouch for the accuracy of the translation.

been or are being submitted:

filed \boxtimes Other: Attached hereto is a copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report for PCT/US03/21299 (Atty. File 4811-17-PCT), which is the corresponding PCT application.

Serial No. _____ filed

Examiner's attention is drawn to the following co-pending applications, copies of which have

Submission of the above information is not intended as an admission that any item is citable under the statutes or rules to support a rejection, that any item disclosed represents analogous art, or that those skilled in the art would refer to or recognize the pertinence of any reference without the benefit of hindsight, nor should an inference be drawn as to the pertinence of the references based on the order in which they are presented.

Submission of this statement should not be taken as an indication that a search has been conducted, or that no better art exists.

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and the references made of record therein.

FEES

\boxtimes	37 CFR 1.97(b): No fee is believed due in connection with this submission, because the information disclosure statement	
الكنا	submitted herewith is satisfies one of the following conditions ("X" indicates satisfaction):	
		Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution
		application under 37 CFR 1.53(d), or
		•
		Within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of an international application as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 or
		Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or
		Before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under
		37 CFR 1.114.
	Although no fee is believed due, if any fee is deemed due in connection with this submission, please charge such fee to	
	Deposit Account 19-1970.	
	37 CFR 1.97(c): The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed after all the above conditions (37	
	CFR 1.97(b)), but before the mailing date of one of the following conditions: (1) a final action under 37 C.F.R. 1.113 or (2) a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. 1.311, or (3) an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. This Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by:	
	A Certification (below) as specified by 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e). Although no fee is believed due, if any fee is	
	deemed due in connection with this submission, please charge such fee to Deposit Account 19-1970.	
	OR	
	A check in the amount of \$180.00 for the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) for submission of an	
	information disclosure statement. Please credit any overpayment or charge any underpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-	
	1970.	•
	37 CFR 1.97(d): This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(c).	
	☐ This	information Disclosure Statement includes a Certification (below) as specified by 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)
	AND	
	Applicants hereby requests consideration of the reference(s) disclosed herein. Enclosed is the fee in the	
	amount of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p). Please credit any overpayment or charge any underpayment to Deposit	
	Account No. 19-1970. Election to pay the fee should not be taken as an indication that applicant(s) cannot execute a	
	certification.	

Certification (37 C.F.R. 1.97(e))
(Applicable only if checked)

The undersigned certifies that:

Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1).

A copy of the communication from the foreign patent office is enclosed.

OR

No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(2).

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: April 13, 2004